Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 13, 14, 18-20, 26, and 27 are pending in the application, with 13, 19, 20, and 26 being the independent claims. Claim 20 has been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 13 and 14 are sought to be amended. Claim 15 is sought to be cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

In the Office Action, claims 13-15, 18, 19, 26, and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C §102(e) as being anticipated by Bedwell, et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,522,635 (Bedwell). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 13 has been amended to include the subject matter of dependent claim 15. Bedwell does not teach or suggest each and every element of amended claim 13. In the rejection of dependent claim 15, the Examiner states that "Bedwell discloses said repeat parameter includes a increment by which said range is increased after each repetition of steps a) and b) (see Col. 38, lines 34-49)." Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's understanding of Bedwell.

The passage of Bedwell recited by the Examiner describes that if a collision is detected, transmission of the burst is rescheduled for a predetermined interval. The

mobile terminal then randomly picks a frame from this interval for repeating the burst. (Bedwell, col. 38, lines 35-49).

In contrast, in Applicants' claimed invention, the SAN indicates to the MAN the interval for rescheduling (the period determined according to a repeat parameter) together with a further waiting interval to be added to the total waiting interval each time a further retransmission is made following an unsuccessful transmission (the increment included in the repeat parameter by which the range is increased after each repetition of steps a) and b)). Thus, Bedwell does not teach or suggest a method including "if a collision is detected at said detecting step, waiting for a period determined according to a repeat parameter before repeating steps a) and b), wherein said repeat parameter is received by said transceiver and wherein said repeat parameter indicates a range and includes an increment by which said range is increased after each repetition of steps a) and b)," as recited in amended claim 13.

Bedwell also does not teach or suggest each and every element of independent claim 19. In Bedwell, a signaling Channel Descriptor (SCD) includes, for each slot, a bit to indicate whether the slot is reserved for a specific terminal or whether they are available for unreserved access and a bit to indicate whether the burst has actually been received. (Bedwell, col. 15, lines 30-65). In contrast, in Applicants' claimed invention, for each forward frequency channel, a set of preferred return frequency channels are stored. If a forward frequency channel is allocated to one of the transceivers, preferentially one of the stored preferred return frequency channels is selected.

Thus, Bedwell does not teach or suggest a method including "wherein, for each forward frequency channel, a set of preferred return frequency channels is stored, such

that for each of said transceivers to which a specified one of said forward frequency channels is allocated, the allocated one or more return frequency channels is preferentially selected from said corresponding set of preferred return frequency channels," as recited in independent claim 19.

In addition, Bedwell does not teach or suggest each and every element of independent claim 26. In the Background section, Bedwell describes a Standard-C system having the capability of operating in a demand assigned mode to save satellite power if network conditions require it. (Bedwell, col. 2, lines 50-53). In addition, Standard-C includes flexible access control and signaling protocols in order to meet the need to accommodate future new services and applications. (Bedwell, col. 2, lines 57-60).

Bedwell however does not teach or suggest a method including "monitoring data transmitted to said transceiver" and "predicting, on the basis of said monitoring step, a demand for capacity in said channel by said transceiver," as recited in independent claim 26 or "detecting the content of said monitored data, wherein the demand for capacity is predicted according to said content," as recited in dependent claim 18.

For at least the foregoing reasons, independent claims 13, 19, and 26 are patentable over Bedwell. Claims 14 depends from claim 13 and claims 18 and 26 depend from claim 26. For at least the foregoing reasons, and further in view of their own features, dependent claims 14, 18, and 26 are patentable over Bedwell. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Applicants believe the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner

believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this

application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number

provided.

Respectfully submitted,

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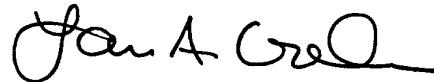
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